



Senate Daily Summary

Thursday 24 May 2001

The Senate met from 9.30am until 9.30pm

Budget 2001-02

[For Budget Papers, Portfolio Budget Statements and related sites click here](#)

The Opposition, Australian Democrats and Pauline Hanson's One Nation made responses to the Budget statement and documents

Legislation

[For full text of bills and other associated documents click here](#)

The following bills were introduced in the Senate

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Wildlife Protection) Bill 2001

Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment Bill 2000

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2000

The following bills were passed

Without amendments

Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment Bill 2001 [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]

Communications and the Arts Legislation Amendment Bill 2000 [This bill will now be assented to]

Compensation (Japanese Internment) Bill 2001 [This bill will now be assented to]

Family and Community Services and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Further Assistance for Older Australians) Bill 2001 [This bill will now be assented to]

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (One-off Payment to the Aged) Bill 2001 [This bill will now be assented to]

Prime Minister and Cabinet Legislation Amendment (Application of Criminal Code) Bill 2001 [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill]

Taxation Laws Amendment (Changes for Senior Australians) Bill 2001 [This bill will now be assented to]

With an amendment

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Amendment Bill 2001 [The House of Representatives will now consider this bill as amended]

The following messages from the House of Representatives was reported

Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2000–The message reported that the House of Representatives disagreed to [the amendment by the Senate](#) [The Senate will consider this message on a future sitting day]

See the **Committees** section for details of reports relating to legislation

Committees

[For scheduled public committee hearings click here](#) 

[For committee reports click here](#) 

Reports tabled

- *Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2001-02–35th Report–Appropriations and Staffing Committee*
- *Issues arising from the committee’s report on Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2000–Superannuation and Financial Services Select Committee*
- Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment Bill 2000 and the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2000–Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education Legislation Committee
- Publications Committee–[25th Report](#) (report adopted)

Government responses to committee reports tabled

- *Australia’s expanding trade and investment relationship with South America–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Joint Committee*
- *Privacy and the private sector: Inquiry into privacy issues, including the Privacy Amendment Bill 1998–Legal and Constitutional References Committee*
- *Six treaties tabled on 7 March 2000–32nd report–Treaties Joint Committee*

Membership

The Senate agreed to [various changes](#) to committee membership

Messages from the House of Representatives reported

The messages advised the following committee membership changes:

- National Crime Authority Joint Committee–Mr Baird appointed
- Treaties Joint Committee–Mr Haase appointed in place of Mrs Elson

New inquiries

The Senate agreed to refer the following bills and related matters to committees:

- Dairy Produce Legislation Amendment (Supplementary Assistance) Bill 2001, with particular reference to the adequacy of the guidelines for distribution of dairy adjustment funds to meet the particular needs of dairy farm lessors and other dairy farmers–Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee–to report by 18 June 2001

- Human Rights (Mandatory Sentencing for Property Offences) Bill 2000–Legal and Constitutional References Committee—to report by 7 August 2001

Reporting dates

The Senate agreed to the following extensions of time for committees to report:

- Disposal of Defence properties–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–28 June 2001
- Examination of developments in contemporary Japan and the implications for Australia–Second report–Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee–28 June 2001
- Framework for the market supervision of Australia’s stock exchanges–Economics References Committee–27 June 2001

Delegated legislation

[For a complete list of notices of motion to disallow \(and outcomes\) click here](#) 

Notice of intention given to withdraw a notices

[A notice of intention](#) was given by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances to withdraw ten notices to disallow delegated legislation

See the *Documents* section for details of instruments tabled

Motions agreed to

The Senate agreed to motions without debate about:

- [Amnesty International](#)–moved by Senator Bourne
- [Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women](#)–moved by Senator Bourne
- [National Reconciliation Week](#)–moved by Senators Crossin and Ridgeway
- [Telstra Call Centres in regional Australia](#)–Senator Allison

Motion debated

The Senate debated a motion (moved by Senator Bishop) about datacasting

Notices of motion

[For other notices of motion not mentioned elsewhere click here](#) 

Orders for the production of documents

Motion agreed to

[The Senate ordered](#) the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business to table various files about workplace relations at a meat processing firm (no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on 18 June 2001)–motion moved by Senator Carr

Statement by Minister

The Assistant Treasurer made a statement about the Senate order for the production of documents relating to certain representations made since March 1996 by, or on behalf of, HIH Insurance Pty Ltd and/or all associated companies (no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on 24 May 2001). [The Minister indicated](#) that the order would not be complied with.

Documents

The following documents were tabled:

- Auditor-General—Report No. 38 of 2000-2001—Performance audit—The use of confidentiality provisions in Commonwealth contracts
- Centenary of the first meetings of the Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament—[Letters from the ambassadors](#) of Poland and Romania
- [Clerk's documents](#) [disallowable instruments and other documents required by statute to be tabled]
- No government documents**
- [Response](#) to a Senate resolution (agreed to 1 March 2001) about genetically-modified crops

Petitions

[3 petitions](#) were received

Also in the Senate yesterday

- Questions without notice and debate on issues arising in Question Time
- Adjournment debate

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The *Senate Daily Summary* is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
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